

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 00548 120318Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OIC-02 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W
-----120743Z 018067 /22

R 110345Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO USMISSION USUN GENEVA
SECSTATE WASHDC 2724

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 0548

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, ELAB, NZ
SUBJECT: ILO; CONSULTATIONS ON STRUCTURE

REF: STATE 12607

1. BRIAN ABSOLUM, DEPARTING HEAD OF MFA UN DIVISION, CALLED LABATT FEBRUARY 11 AND REQUESTED HE STOP BY FOR CONVERSATION REGARDING WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE (WPS). ABSOLUM WANTED TO KNOW WHAT USG'S OBJECTION WAS TO NEW ZEALAND/ASIAN GROUP "THINK PIECE" OF LAST YEAR ON CHANGING COMPOSITION OF ILO GOVERNING BODY. IN RESPONSE, LABATT AGAVE ABSOLUM THRUST OF PARENTHETICAL PORTION OF PARA ONE OF REFTTEL.

2. ABSOLUM EXPRESSED BEMUSEMENT AND MILD IRRITATION THAT GNZ DELEGATION IN GENEVA HAD NOT BEEN CONSULTED BY USG CONCERNING POSTPONEMENT OF WPS FEBRUARY MEETING. HE WONDERED IF LACK OF CONSULTATION WAS INTENTIONAL AND IF SO, SAID SUCH AN AVOIDANCE WAS SURELY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. LABATT REPLIED HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY REASON FOR LACK OF CONSULTATIONS AND WAS SURE THAT IF SUCH OCCURRED IT WAS NOT INTENTIONAL.

3. ABSOLUM ASKED FOR FULLER EXPLANATION OF USG POSITION AND PARTICULARLY ASSERTION THAT RESTRUCTURING OF GOVERNMENT
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GB WOULD "INEVITABLY LEAD TO SAME FORMULA BEING IMPOSED ON SELECTION OF WORKER AND EMPLOYER GB REPS." HE SAID THIS WAS CRUX OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN USG ANDGNZ SINCE GNZ DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT ADJUSTMENT IN ONE AREA "INEVITABLY" WOULD LEAD TO ADJUSTMENTS IN OTHER. LABATT PROMISED TO SEEK CLARIFICATION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ANY ELABORATION OR CLARIFICATION OF
USG POSITION WHICH LABATT COULD SHARE WITH ABSOLUM WOULD BE
HELPFUL. IN ADDITION, LABATT AND ABSOLUM MUTUALLY AGREED TO URGE
RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA TO DISCUSS ISSUE. GENEVA
MAY THERE FORE WANT TO APPROACH EITHER ROSS OR FARNON OF
NEW ZEALAND MISSION TO DUSCUSS MATTER, IF THEY HAVE NOT DONE SO
ALREADY.
SELDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977WELLIN00548
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770050-0957
Format: TEL
From: WELLINGTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770247/aaaabqbb.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a6126ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 12607
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3336238
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO; CONSULTATIONS ON STRUCTURE
TAGS: ELAB, NZ, US, ILO
To: USUN NEW YORK STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a6126ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009